AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently Amended) A terminal apparatus connected to a network and configured to perform an operation, the terminal apparatus comprising:

a packet volume detecting unit configured to detect a number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; ~~and~~

a logical disconnecting unit configured to logically disconnect the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of packets detected by the packet volume detecting unit exceeds a predetermined value; and

a reconnecting unit configured to reconnect the terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network by the logical disconnecting unit,

wherein the reconnecting unit increases the return interval time from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets, which the packet volume detecting unit detects for a first time after the reconnection, exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, the reconnecting unit maintains the return interval time at the upper limit value.

20. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the packet volume detecting unit detects the number of only those broadcast packets among packets received by the terminal apparatus, and the logical disconnecting unit logically disconnects the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of broadcast packets received in a predetermined time exceeds a predetermined value.

21-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, further including:

an inputting device for inputting a connection request for connecting said terminal apparatus to said network.

24. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, further including:

a display device for displaying the fact that said terminal apparatus is disconnected.

25. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, further including:

a unit for storing history information about disconnection and reconnection of said terminal apparatus; and

a display device for displaying the history information.

26. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said packet volume detecting unit does not detect said number of packets when the terminal apparatus is logically disconnected from said network.

27. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, further including:

a first changing unit configured to change said predetermined value in accordance with a processing load required via said network.

28. (Previously presented) The terminal apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said first changing unit changes said predetermined value in accordance with a transition of said processing load required via said network.

29. (Currently amended) The terminal apparatus according to claim 19, further including:

a ~~second~~ changing unit configured to change said predetermined value in accordance with a status of said network.

30. (Currently Amended) A control method of a terminal apparatus connected to a network and configured to perform an operation, the control method of a terminal apparatus comprising the steps of:

detecting a number of packets received from a network in a predetermined time;~~and~~

logically disconnecting the terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value; and

reconnecting the terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network,

wherein the return interval time is increased from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets detected after the reconnection exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, maintaining the return interval time at the upper limit value.

31. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium with code embodied therein for performing a control method of a terminal apparatus connected to a network and configured to perform an operation, the method comprising:

detecting a number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time;~~and~~

logically disconnecting the terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value; and

reconnecting the terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network,

wherein the return interval time is increased from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets detected after the

reconnection exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, maintaining the return interval time at the upper limit value.

32. (Currently amended) A network system including a plurality of terminal apparatuses connected to a network, each terminal apparatus comprising:

a packet volume detecting unit configured to detect the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; ~~and~~

a logical disconnecting unit configured to logically disconnect the terminal apparatus from the network when the number of packets detected by the packet volume detecting unit exceeds a predetermined value; and

a reconnecting unit configured to reconnect the terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network by the logical disconnect,

wherein the reconnecting unit increases the return interval time from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets, which the packet volume detecting unit detects for a first time after the reconnection, exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, the reconnecting unit maintains the return interval time at the upper limit value.

33. (Currently amended) A control method of a network system including a plurality of terminal apparatuses connected to a network, the control method of a network system comprising the steps of:

detecting, in each terminal apparatus, the number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; ~~and~~

logically disconnecting a corresponding terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value; and

reconnecting the corresponding terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the corresponding terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network,

wherein the return interval time is increased from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets detected after the reconnection exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, maintaining the return interval time at the upper limit value.

34. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium with code embodied therein for performing a control method of a network system including a plurality of terminal apparatuses connected to a network, the method comprising:

detecting, in each of the plurality of terminal apparatuses, a number of packets received from the network in a predetermined time; ~~and~~

logically disconnecting a corresponding terminal apparatus from the network when the detected number of packets exceeds a predetermined value; and

reconnecting the corresponding terminal apparatus when a return interval time has passed after the corresponding terminal apparatus was disconnected from the network,

wherein the return interval time is increased from the return interval time at the immediately preceding disconnection when the number of packets detected after the reconnection exceeds the predetermined value, and when the increased return interval time reaches an upper limit value, maintaining the return interval time at the upper limit value.